

Presidents' Dinner program draft
May 3, 1996
Cobb Galleria
Draft 4/24/96

Decor re-creates the Olympic Village at Georgia Tech
Program is designed to create a feeling of opening ceremonies

6:00 p.m. Rehearsal for principles as necessary
Complimentary valet parking
Signage leads guests from the hotel entrance, the mall entrance and the main
Galleria entrance

6:30 p.m.
Staff in place at registration area and students at main entrances

7:00 p.m. Cocktails in the foyer
Name tags at the head of the escalator
Piano during reception
10 bars and bartenders

7:45 p.m. Call to dinner, GT trumpeters (4)
Waiters form an entrance inside the ballroom doors

8:00 p.m. Pre-set...
Salad course
GT flame in chocolate, favor
Program
Menu card:
Field greens with dressing
Beef tenderloin au poivre, 2 fantail shrimp stuffed with crabmeat
Rosemary potatoes
Summer squash medley
Rolls and butter
Dessert bar following the program
Wine (red and white) to be served with dinner

7:50 p.m.
Students retrieve flags and line up in the foyer for the flag parade.
GT Concert band takes its place on the back stage.

When guests are seated...

Fanfare, GT band, from the back stage

A professional announcer (the Voice) will serve as master of ceremonies from a sound booth in the rear of the ballroom. The Voice:

Ladies and Gentlemen (repeat if necessary to quiet the guests), welcome to the 1996 Presidents' Dinner, honoring alumni and friends who contribute so generously to Georgia Tech.

In approximately 77 days, the Georgia Tech campus will welcome the world when it is transformed into the 1996 Olympic Village. In its role as the Village, Georgia Tech will be home to 15,000 of the world's finest athletes—present in Atlanta to represent their countries and go for the gold in the Centennial Olympic Games.

Although the athletic elite will be here this summer, our academically elite students study here everyday—and represent Georgia Tech's main priority. To honor their achievements, tonight we are proud to recognize the Georgia Tech students from around the world.

Ladies and Gentlemen, the parade of flags representing the 96 countries of the students of Georgia Tech.

GT Band plays Olympic fanfare (20 seconds)

When fanfare ends, the Olympic theme is played and the parade of flags begins.

(Flags will be paraded in alphabetical order. Students parade in pairs from the main ballroom entrance, down the center aisle and split at the front of the stage, right line moving to the right perimeter of the ballroom and the left line in like form to the left. The first student in each line will move to the far end of the ballroom and place his/her staff in the far base; each student will follow suit. The flag of the United States will be placed on the stage right corner of the main stage. As each student places his/her flag, he/she will proceed back to the rear entrance of the ballroom.)

When all the flags are placed and the students have returned to the rear of the ballroom the Olympic theme concludes. The students will then take their seats.

The Voice:

Ladies and Gentlemen, please recognize your hosts for this evening's special

event. The president of Georgia Tech, class of 1964, Dr. G. Wayne Clough and Anne Clough. (pause for applause, spotlight on the Cloughs at their table... they stand and are recognized)

The president of the Georgia Tech Foundation, class of 1962, Mr. Charlie Brown, and his wife Brenda.(pause for applause, spotlight on the Browns at their table...they stand and are recognized)

And the president of the Georgia Tech Alumni Association, class of 1961, Mr. Milt Stewart, and his wife Carolyn (pause for applause, spotlight on the Stewarts at their table...they stand and are recognized)

Thanks to your generosity, this year the Georgia Tech Alumni Association Roll Call will contribute close to \$6 million to Georgia Tech. Please recognize the Vice President of the 49th Roll Call, class of 1969, Mr. N. Allen Robertson and his wife Pat.(pause for applause, spotlight on the Robertsons at their table...they stand and are recognized)

Mr. Robertson will now deliver the invocation (Mr. Robertson moves to the lectern on stage to deliver the invocation. Following the invocation, Mr. Robertson is seated and dinner begins.)

8:25 p.m.Entree is served
Piano during dinner

9:00 p.m. Program begins

The Voice:

Ladies and Gentlemen, this year Georgia Tech has reached new heights. Out of more than 200 national universities, we were ranked 42nd overall and 10th among public universities—the highest national rankings in our history. In addition, more than nine of our college and school programs have been nationally ranked in the top ten.

A special video has been prepared for tonight's festivities as a reminder to each of us of the great achievements of Georgia Tech. Please enjoy, "The Degree of Ascent: The Rise of Georgia Tech".

Lights out, video begins (8 minutes)

Video concludes (pause for applause, lights to , spotlight on lectern stage left)

(Dr. Clough has moved to the edge of the stage left stairs during the applause for the video; he proceeds immediately onto the stage following the introduction).

The Voice:

“Ladies and Gentlemen, Dr. Wayne Clough

Dr. Clough:

“Thank you...

Good evening. It is a great pleasure to be with you tonight to celebrate another successful year for the Georgia Institute of Technology.

These celebrations occur year after year as we build on our strong foundation of excellence.

In fact, tonight’s Olympic theme is quite fitting. As far as I know, Olympic athletes aren’t those who jump up from the couch one day, run out to the local gym or swimming pool, and break a world record. Instead, Olympic athletes spend years perfecting their stride or stroke—until they are ready to take part in elite competition.

Likewise, Georgia Tech has spent many years preparing—or training if you will—to stand where we stand today at the highest point in our history.

Of course there is a significant difference between Georgia Tech and an Olympic athlete. Legendary Olympic athlete Jesse Owens once called the Olympics: “A lifetime of training for 10 seconds of glory.”

For Georgia Tech, the result is quite the opposite. Although we have also spent a lifetime training, our upward momentum will continue long after the Olympics. Although we have reached heights unknown in the history of the Institute, we will reach still higher.

Our ascent is due—in large part—to the superior scholarship, teaching, and research done by our faculty as well as the thirst for knowledge exhibited by our students. I hope each of you has had the opportunity to visit with one of the Tech students present. They are among our best and our brightest.

Their success—and Tech’s—would not be possible, however, without you.

Tonight we recognize and celebrate your contributions to our success. Without the support of the alumni and friends of Georgia Tech, through the Roll Call, special gifts, and the hours of volunteer service you give, Georgia Tech would not—and could not—be the successful and prestigious institution it is today.

On behalf of Georgia Tech, thank you for all that you do for the Institute. In particular I would like to recognize Mr. Milton Stewart, president of the Alumni Association, and Mr. Charlie Brown, president of the Georgia Tech Foundation. Gentlemen, thank you for your leadership this year and for the leadership of the boards you chair. (Pause, applause)

Due to your help—and the tradition of greatness that has been built at Georgia Tech, we have reached a significant milestone in its history. Our successes and the opportunity to serve as the 1996 Olympic Village place Tech in an enviable position—ready and able to begin climbing the next pinnacle.

Today, members of more than 20 advisory boards of Georgia Tech's schools and colleges and the Alumni Association, Foundation, and Georgia Tech Advisory Board met together to discuss Tech's plan for the future. At a convocation this afternoon, I was proud to announce a critical element in that future, the Campaign for Georgia Tech.

Its theme, Threshold of a New Era, recognizes the trajectory of our ascent and the unlimited future ahead of us. (slide of theme fades in, pause).

It also gives credit to the past—to the traditions and people that have brought us this far. Because it has been the people of Georgia Tech who have consistently made the difference.

I would now like to recognize two men who will make a major difference in our future. They are the chairman and vice chairman of our Capital Campaign, Mr. Pete Silas and Mr. Larry Gellerstadt,... gentlemen would you please stand... (Pause, applause)

Over the next few years, the Campaign for Georgia Tech will raise the funds that will allow us to achieve our strategic goals at a pace which rapidly closes the gap between Georgia Tech and the leading competition and distances us from those behind us.

Our goal is to raise \$400 million. (Slide of goal fades in pause)

Over the past nine months, many members of the Georgia Tech family, alumni, friends, faculty, and staff have stepped forward to make their pledges and gifts to the campaign. And, tonight I am pleased to announce that you have contributed more than \$5 million to the campaign through the 49th Annual Roll Call. (Slide of Roll Call contributions to date fades in, pause)

Many of you have also made pledges and gifts to the campaign beyond your Roll Call contribution. As a result of your generosity, we are well on our way to a new era. More than 1/4 of the way, actually, as the quiet phase of the campaign has already raised more than \$100 million.

Thank you very much. Thanks to you, the new era is underway.

(slide of \$ raised to date fades in, repeats, followed by Thank you slide)

(Applause)

Lights up to 3/4

Dr. Clough exits stage

Band comes from rear of ballroom to center of the dance floor playing the Ramblin' Wreck/White and Gold medley.

Following program
Dessert bar is open in the foyer
Cash bars open in the foyer
Dancing until midnight
Pictures by the Wrecks